



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; April 9, 2012

For the week ending April 8, 2012

CORN PLANTING TWO WEEKS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Tennessee corn farmers took full advantage of the six days suitable for fieldwork to make great planting progress last week. Sub-normal precipitation, coupled with warmer than normal temperatures, allowed growers to end the week at forty-six percent planted. This pace is two weeks ahead of the five-year average and one of the most rapid starts on record. The Tennessee wheat crop is in good-to-excellent condition and is developing at a rate two weeks earlier than usual. The main farm work, other than planting last week, was fertilizer and pesticide applications. Pastures looked exceptionally good.

There were 6 days suitable for fieldwork across the state. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 8 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent short, 84 percent adequate and 6 percent surplus. Temperatures were well above normal across Tennessee. Rainfall amounts averaged below normal across West Tennessee and the Cumberland Plateau and above normal over the remainder of the state.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Apples – Budding or Beyond	88	76	73	79	Cattle	0	3	18	65	14
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	62	47	34	33	Pastures	0	2	20	61	16
Corn – Planted	46	15	9	15	Winter Wheat	0	1	11	61	27
Winter Wheat – Jointed	85	65	59	51						
Winter Wheat – Top Dressed	94	83	90	87						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Wheat continues to progress at a rapid pace two to three weeks ahead of normal. Seeing evidence of septoria leaf blotch, striped rust and occasional powdery mildew in some fields. Producers have applied fungicides in wheat on some acreage but anticipating more in next few days. Corn planting has been rapidly progressing this week with several acres already planted. Still expecting corn acres to be up substantially.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“Corn producers have covered tremendous acres this week in planting their crop. Area agribusiness personnel have stretched manpower, machines and crop supplies to keep up with demand. Excellent weather conditions and warmer than normal temperatures have corn emerging in less than one week. Wheat is heading and pollinating with some stripe rust and cereal leaf beetles being detected and sprayed for.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Farmers continued to take advantage of the abnormal warm weather with many field activities. Corn planting is in full swing and way ahead of schedule. Farmers were hoping for some late week rains for some moisture and a break from the frantic early season field work.”

Calvin Bryant, Lawrence County

“Parts of the county received over 2 inches of rain last Saturday. The problem was that it was accompanied by hail. Lasted for more than an hour on and off with the rain. Some fields were washed due to flooding. Damage reports to many vehicles, building and barn roofs, trees, plants and more.”

Kevin Rose, Giles County

“Our rains have slowed down and some places need moisture.”

Larry Moorehead, Moore County

“Continued above normal temperatures with less than hoped for rain. Most crop progress is nearly one month ahead of normal. The (wheat) crop looks good with few problems, producers making plans to apply fungicides, with some applications already being made. A few (corn) producers reporting done with planting. A good rain would help crop progress and emergence. Cool season grasses are beginning to head out; some hay has been cut mostly wheat, but a little fescue.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Rain toward the end of the week was very helpful for pastures, hay and planted crops. Some wheat hay has been cut. If warmer than average temperatures continue along with timely rains, fescue and orchard grass hay will be cut and baled 2-3 weeks earlier than normal. Corn planting began 7-10 days earlier than average.”

Richard Groce, Maury County

“Another good week for farming. Planting corn, fertilizing wheat and pastures and hay ground and spraying pastures and corn ground were major activities. Limited rains Friday night. Need good general rain.”

Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Corn planting is gaining momentum. Forages are improving but last year's drought has resulted in considerable stand loss. Many of these acres were replanted this winter/spring.”

John Wilson, Blount County

“I looked at field corn today that was 6" tall and looking good. Some wheat is beginning to head.”

John Goddard, Loudon County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION

For week ending: April 8, 2012 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending April 8, 2012				Current Week 4/08/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	87	41	66	8	0.00	0	10.50	-4.97	0.00	-1.52
Brownsville_TN	86	41	66	8	0.33	1	10.57	-4.78	0.33	-1.06
Covington	86	43	65	8	0.50	1	12.64	-2.66	0.50	-0.94
Dyersburg	88	43	66	9	0.60	1	9.74	-4.47	0.60	-0.63
Huntingdon_Wate	87	39	65	10	0.80	1	9.49	-5.70	0.80	-0.47
Jackson_Exp_Stn	89	40	66	10	0.30	1	11.26	-3.48	0.30	-1.01
Lexington_TN	86	37	64	9	0.00	0	11.15	-3.44	0.00	-1.24
Martin	88	40	66	11	0.43	1	11.19	-3.58	0.43	-0.93
Memphis_AG	87	42	66	6	0.40	2	11.45	-3.66	0.40	-1.04
Milan	87	38	65	10	0.38	1	10.89	-4.19	0.38	-0.91
Paris	86	38	65	11	0.95	1	10.65	-4.37	0.95	-0.39
Savannah_6SW	86	40	65	6	0.37	3	13.89	-3.19	0.52	-0.92
Selmer	87	38	65	9	0.06	1	12.85	-4.01	0.06	-1.38
Union_City	85	40	63	8	0.39	1	9.99	-4.64	0.39	-0.89
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	89	40	65	11	0.14	2	9.52	-5.58	0.14	-1.14
Cookeville	84	36	62	9	1.17	2	16.30	-0.17	1.17	-0.10
Crossville_AP	80	36	63	11	0.78	1	15.29	-1.24	0.78	-0.55
Dickson_AG	86	40	63	8	0.67	1	12.47	-3.07	0.67	-0.69
Dover_1W	84	38	64	10	0.82	1	11.51	-3.92	0.82	-0.54
Fayetteville_TN	84	38	64	10	1.52	3	16.51	-0.26	1.52	0.20
Jamestown	83	35	60	8	0.50	2	16.22	1.02	0.50	-0.71
Kingston_Spring	86	37	65	11	1.05	1	12.00	-3.37	1.05	-0.19
Lewisburg	85	34	62	8	0.13	1	11.32	-4.69	0.63	-0.64
Livingston_WLIV	84	39	63	8	0.36	2	16.61	1.76	0.36	-0.82
Lobelville	87	36	63	8	0.08	1	10.74	-5.72	0.08	-1.22
Murfreesboro_5N	86	37	64	9	0.56	2	12.97	-2.19	0.74	-0.48
Nashville_Metro	86	41	67	11	1.36	2	12.41	-1.15	1.36	0.19
Oneida	85	35	61	10	0.67	2	17.57	2.34	0.67	-0.54
Portland_TN	86	37	65	11	0.71	2	12.44	-2.22	0.71	-0.49
Pulaski_Water_P	83	38	63	5	0.28	2	13.23	-3.62	2.00	0.72
Shelbyville	86	38	64	8	0.34	2	14.26	-2.07	0.34	-0.94
Sparta_TN	84	36	64	9	0.37	1	13.35	-2.61	0.37	-0.87
Springfield	85	38	63	11	0.65	1	12.34	-1.87	0.65	-0.53
Springhill	85	39	64	11	0.66	2	11.92	-4.24	0.83	-0.54
Tullahoma	84	43	64	8	0.53	2	13.90	-3.61	0.53	-0.84
Waynesboro_TN	85	38	63	9	0.39	1	12.87	-4.56	1.03	-0.44
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	88	48	68	13	0.48	1	15.21	-1.94	0.88	-0.37
Cleveland_6NNE	85	41	64	9	0.62	2	15.96	-1.01	0.62	-0.62
Dayton	85	45	65	10	0.47	2	14.85	-2.64	0.52	-0.77
Erwin_1W	79	33	59	9	1.58	5	12.28	-0.44	1.58	0.51
Gatlinburg_2SW	82	34	61	10	2.61	4	19.58	4.31	2.64	1.46
Greeneville	82	33	60	9	2.48	4	13.62	1.89	2.50	1.58
Kingston_AG	87	39	65	12	1.21	3	16.21	-1.29	1.23	-0.02
Knoxville_AP	83	43	65	11	2.78	3	18.57	4.05	2.78	1.72
Newcomb	83	32	60	9	1.50	5	18.03	2.80	1.57	0.36
Norris_4NE	87	34	61	9	1.94	2	19.08	3.85	2.57	1.39
Tri-City_RGNL_A	82	33	60	8	2.21	5	12.94	1.58	2.21	1.33

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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The USDA, NASS, Tennessee Field Office gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:
National Weather Service and the University of Tennessee's Extension.